

Austin ISD Off-campus Greenspaces for Outdoor Learning Map FAQ

What is the purpose of the map?

As a response to COVID-19, educators are encouraged to take learning outdoors. In the event that an Austin ISD school does not have adequate outdoor space that could be used for learning, this map allows users to view additional greenspace within a walking distance of their campus.

How do you define “walking distance”?

Walking distance is defined as a 5-minute walk for elementary schools and a 10-minute walk for middle and high schools.

What does the map show?

Austin ISD schools, creeks, Homeowner’s Association parks, church greenspace, City of Austin parks, greenbelts, and trails, and the restrooms and amenities (picnic tables, benches, and drinking fountains) at those sites.

Does the map only include parklands under PARD jurisdiction?

No, in addition to showing City of Austin greenspaces, the map also includes greenspaces outside of City of Austin jurisdiction, such as church land or HOA parks.

How do I use layers?

If you select “Content” on the left-side menu, you can turn on and off various layers on the map. This allows you to select which parts of the map you want to see. For example, you could deselect all layers but “Austin Parkland” and “Austin Campus” to see only greenspaces under PARD jurisdiction and Austin ISD schools while omitting the layers that show things like amenities and creeks.

The “World Imagery” layer allows you to toggle between seeing the map as a satellite photo image or a 2d map with less detail.

How do I search the map?

To find a particular greenspace or elementary school you can use the search bar in the upper right corner of the map. This allows you to search for schools and greenspaces by name as well as by address.

Can I find directions using this map?

Yes, the map allows you to find directions between two addresses in several different ways. One way is to select the greenspace or campus you want to find directions to or from and then select the “Get Directions” option at the bottom of the info window that opens. You can then type in the second address in the tab on the left or select the greenspace or campus on the map to automatically fill in the second address.

Another way is to select the “Directions” option on the toolbar at the top of the map. You can then fill in the addresses in the tab on the left manually, or you can select the greenspaces or campuses on the map to automatically fill in the address.

How do I find the closest greenspace to a certain school?

First select the school you want to find a greenspace near on the map. An info window will pop up with several data fields. The first two data fields show information about the type of school (elementary, middle, or high) and the name of the school. The next data field gives the name of the closest greenspace within walking distance to that school, followed by the location of that greenspace. The data field “Route_Data” gives a brief description of how to get to the greenspace from the campus. The info window also provides more information about the closest greenspace such as accessibility, shade, and seating details as well as any other features the greenspace may have.